Growth rate of software exports

4199. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the growth rate of software export in 1998-99,1999-2000 and 2000-01;

(b) whether higher growth rate of software export has been projected for the year 2001-2002;

(c) if so, the percentage of increase in comparison to the previous year,

(d) whether the International Data Corporation (IDC) has visualised a decline of software export growth rate in the country (India) in the year 2001-02; and

(e) if so, to what extent slow down has been projected by IDC ?

THE MINISTER OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN): (a) The growth rate of software export was 83% in 1998-99,38% in 1999-2000 and 63% in 2000-2001.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) For the year 2001-02, a growth rate of 40-45% in software exports is projected.

(d) and (e) As per newspaper reports, the market intelligence firm, International Data Corporation (IDC) has lowered the projections for Indian software exports growth in 2001-02 to 20-25%, from 50% projected by them earlier.

Information Technology for social development

4200. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal to make use to Information Technology for social development of the poor people;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) steps taken by Government to implement these proposals ?